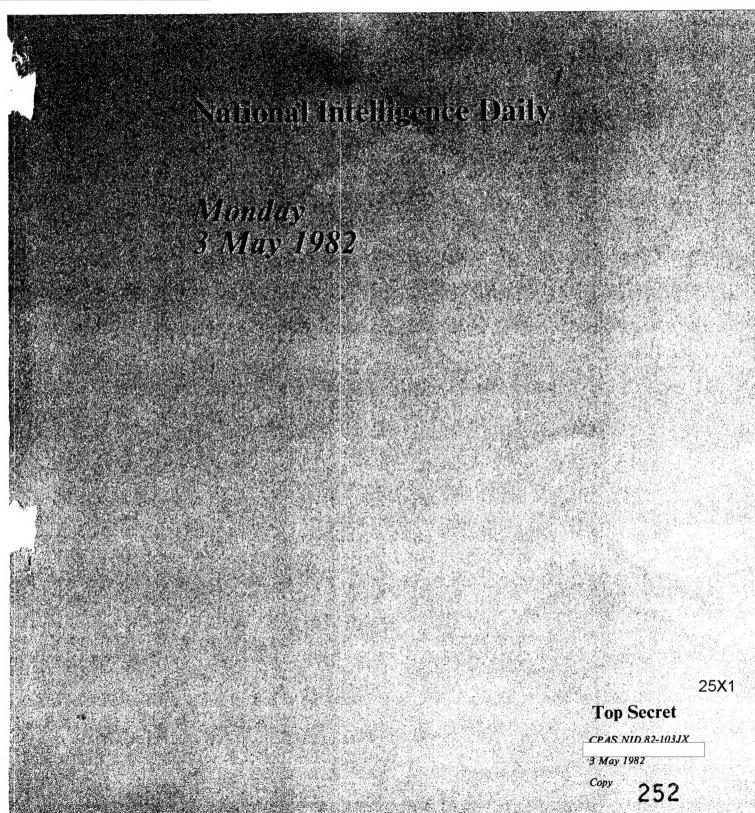
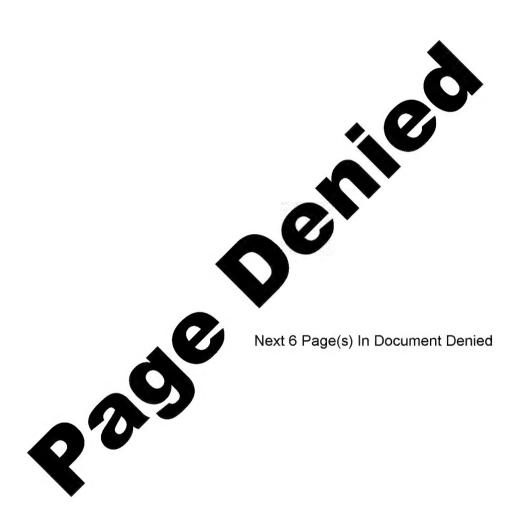
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IRAN-IRAQ: Offensive Resumed

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Iran yesterday launched the second phase of its offensive striking south toward Khorramshahr.

According to a press report, Iranian President
Khamenei has acknowledged a "certain delay" in achieving
some of the objectives of the offensive. Tehran had
claimed the offensive was aimed at liberating Khorramshahr
and pushing the Iraqis beyond the border. The US Interests
Section in Baghdad reports that the population generally
is calm but apprehensive over the likelihood of heavy
Iraqi casualties.

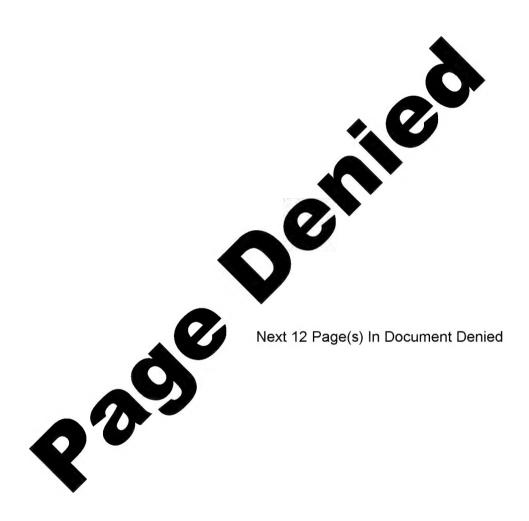
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Comment: Unless the Iraqis can regain control of the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr highway, their units in Khorramshahr will become increasingly vulnerable. The fighting probably will last another week with the Iranians trying to push southward toward Khorramshahr and the Iraqis trying to recapture the road. Iran apparently does not yet intend to push toward the border.

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